

1 AN ACT concerning public health.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Department of Public Health Powers and
5 Duties Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois is
6 amended by adding Section 2310-612 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 2310/2310-612 new)

8 Sec. 2310-612. Blindness prevention grants.

9 (a) From funds appropriated from the Blindness Prevention
10 Fund, a special fund created in the State treasury, the
11 Department must make grants to charitable or educational
12 entities in Illinois for the purpose of funding (i) public
13 education on the importance of eye care and the prevention of
14 blindness and (ii) the provision of eye care to children,
15 senior citizens, and other needy individuals whose needs are
16 not covered by any other source of funds.

17 (b) Grants under this Section must be awarded on both a
18 statewide and regional basis, taking into consideration each
19 region's contributions to the Fund. At least 25% of the grants
20 must be made to regional grantees.

21 (c) A grant under this Section shall be made for a period
22 of one year and, subject to the availability of funds, may be
23 renewed by the Department.

24 (d) The Department must create an advisory committee to
25 make recommendations to the Department concerning grant
26 proposals. The advisory committee shall consist of one
27 representative from the Illinois Society for the Prevention of
28 Blindness, one licensed doctor of optometry, one member of the
29 Gateway Lions & Partners, one optometric educator from a school
30 of optometry located within Illinois, and one member from the
31 general public. Members of the advisory committee may not
32 receive compensation or reimbursement for their services.

1 Members of the committee must recuse themselves from
2 consideration of any grant proposals submitted by any entity
3 from which they were appointed.

4 (e) The Department must adopt any rules necessary to
5 implement and administer this Section, including, without
6 limitation, a methodology for determining regions of the State.

7 Section 10. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
8 Section 5.640 as follows:

9 (30 ILCS 105/5.640 new)

10 Sec. 5.640. The Blindness Prevention Fund.

11 Section 15. The Illinois Income Tax Act is amended by
12 adding Section 507EE and amending Sections 509 and 510 as
13 follows:

14 (35 ILCS 5/507EE new)

15 Sec. 507EE. Blindness Prevention Fund checkoff. For
16 taxable years ending on or after December 31, 2005, the
17 Department shall print on its standard individual income tax
18 form a provision indicating that if the taxpayer wishes to
19 contribute to the Blindness Prevention Fund, as authorized by
20 this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly, he or she may
21 do so by stating the amount of the contribution (not less than
22 \$1) on the return and that the contribution will reduce the
23 taxpayer's refund or increase the amount of payment to
24 accompany the return. Failure to remit any amount of increased
25 payment shall reduce the contribution accordingly. This
26 Section shall not apply to any amended return.

27
28 (35 ILCS 5/509) (from Ch. 120, par. 5-509)

29 Sec. 509. Tax checkoff explanations. All individual income
30 tax return forms shall contain appropriate explanations and
31 spaces to enable the taxpayers to designate contributions to

1 the following funds: the Child Abuse Prevention Fund, the
2 Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund (as required by the
3 Illinois Non-Game Wildlife Protection Act), the Alzheimer's
4 Disease Research Fund (as required by the Alzheimer's Disease
5 Research Act), the Assistance to the Homeless Fund (as required
6 by this Act), the Penny Severns Breast and Cervical Cancer
7 Research Fund, the National World War II Memorial Fund, the
8 Prostate Cancer Research Fund, the Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS)
9 Research Fund, the Multiple Sclerosis Assistance Fund, the
10 Leukemia Treatment and Education Fund, the World War II
11 Illinois Veterans Memorial Fund, the Korean War Veterans
12 National Museum and Library Fund, the Illinois Military Family
13 Relief Fund, the Blindness Prevention Fund, the Illinois
14 Veterans' Homes Fund, and the Asthma and Lung Research Fund.

15 Each form shall contain a statement that the contributions
16 will reduce the taxpayer's refund or increase the amount of
17 payment to accompany the return. Failure to remit any amount of
18 increased payment shall reduce the contribution accordingly.

19 If, on October 1 of any year, the total contributions to
20 any one of the funds made under this Section do not equal
21 \$100,000 or more, the explanations and spaces for designating
22 contributions to the fund shall be removed from the individual
23 income tax return forms for the following and all subsequent
24 years and all subsequent contributions to the fund shall be
25 refunded to the taxpayer.

26 (Source: P.A. 92-84, eff. 7-1-02; 92-198, eff. 8-1-01; 92-651,
27 eff. 7-11-02; 92-772, eff. 8-6-02; 92-886, eff. 2-7-03; 93-36,
28 eff. 6-24-03; 93-131, eff. 7-10-03; 93-292, eff. 7-22-03;
29 93-324, eff. 7-23-03; 93-776, eff. 7-21-04.)

30 (35 ILCS 5/510) (from Ch. 120, par. 5-510)

31 Sec. 510. Determination of amounts contributed. The
32 Department shall determine the total amount contributed to each
33 of the following: the Child Abuse Prevention Fund, the Illinois
34 Wildlife Preservation Fund, the Assistance to the Homeless
35 Fund, the Alzheimer's Disease Research Fund, the Penny Severns

1 Breast and Cervical Cancer Research Fund, the National World
2 War II Memorial Fund, the Prostate Cancer Research Fund, the
3 Illinois Military Family Relief Fund, the Lou Gehrig's Disease
4 (ALS) Research Fund, the Multiple Sclerosis Assistance Fund,
5 the Leukemia Treatment and Education Fund, the World War II
6 Illinois Veterans Memorial Fund, the Korean War Veterans
7 National Museum and Library Fund, the Illinois Veterans' Homes
8 Fund, the Blindness Prevention Fund, and the Asthma and Lung
9 Research Fund; and shall notify the State Comptroller and the
10 State Treasurer of the amounts to be transferred from the
11 General Revenue Fund to each fund, and upon receipt of such
12 notification the State Treasurer and Comptroller shall
13 transfer the amounts.

14 (Source: P.A. 92-84, eff. 7-1-02; 92-198, eff. 8-1-01; 92-651,
15 eff. 7-11-02; 92-772, eff. 8-6-02; 92-886, eff. 2-7-03; 93-36,
16 eff. 6-24-03; 93-131, eff. 7-10-03; 93-292, eff. 7-22-03;
17 93-324, eff. 7-23-03; 93-776, eff. 7-21-04.)

18 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
19 becoming law.